

§Appl. No. 10/813,552
Amdt. dated September 30, 2005
Reply to Office Action of, June 1, 2005

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, the last full paragraph has been amended as follows:

Illustrative of widely used suction inlet valve are the Pre-Con valves available from Hydra-Shield Manufacturing, Inc. of Irving, Tex., covered by U.S. Patent No. ~~5,178,183~~ 5,178,185. The Pre-Con valve is designed to operate as an automatic flow control valve which eliminates the need for manual adjustments in reaction to water flow. In hydrant operations, the Pre-Con valve automatically opens in proportion to the flow demand and is capable of automatically balancing flow between multiple water sources. The Pre-Con valve's automatic check valve action also minimizes water hammer. When drafting from a source of water, such as a portable water tank, the check valve action of the Pre-Con valve holds prime water when flow is stopped and allows switching to a booster tank and back to drafting without flow interruption. The Pre-Con valve is an improvement over butterfly valves which it has replaced in many situations.

On page 7, the first full paragraph has been amended as follows:

Referring now also to Figs. 4 and 5 as well as Fig. 3, the ~~valve~~ valve 10 comprises a male body portion 30 which has a threaded neck 32 onto which is threaded a suction hose such as the suction hose 18 of Figs. 1 and 2. The neck 32 has a mouth 34 therein into which water flows. The water may be under pressure, such as the pressure applied from the fire hydrant 28 of Fig. 2, or may

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be unpressurized if provided by a source such as the portable water tank 20 of Fig. 1. The male body member 30 has a first cavity 36 with an annular substantially flat area 38 which joins the cavity 36 to the mouth 34. As is seen in Fig. 5, the male body member 30 may have alternate configurations 30' and 30" with Storz couplings 39' and 39", respectively.

The last full paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10 has been amended as follows:

In order to prevent frozen water from blocking operation of the valve 10, a water drain 120 (Fig. 4) ~~Fig. 3~~ with a rotating stop cock valve 121 is positioned at the bottom 122 of the cavity 49 of the female body 48. Another advantage of draining the chamber is that corrosion on the walls of the chamber and on parts of the cam operating mechanism is reduced. The water drain 120 is positioned in the bottom of the cavity 49 in female body 48 because another fluid vent or drain 130 operated by a stop cock valve 132 is positioned on the bottom 133 of the male body 30. The fluid vent or drain 130 is connected by a bore 134 to the mouth 34 of the threaded neck 32 and relieves excess pressure on the cone-shaped valve element 104.